



Library

1955

ANNUAL REPORT

AND

VITAL STATISTICS

OF THE

URBAN DISTRICT OF KNUTSFORD

BY

D. LONGBOTTOM

M.B., Ch.B., DP.H.

Medical Officer of Health for
the Urban District of Knutsford.

KNUTSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

HEALTH COMMITTEE

Councillors Dr. J. K. Valley, Chairman.
T. S. Meachin, J.P. Chairman
of the Council.

E. Anthistle
Mrs. M. C. Chorlton
R. H. Davis
J. W. Gledhill
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J. H. Oakes
C. B. Platt
A. A. Seaton
W. Shaw

E. MORLEY

Clerk of the Council

Officers of the Public Health Department

Medical Officer of Health	-	Dr. D. Longbottom M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.
Chief Public Health	-	Geo. R. Butler
Inspector & Cleansing Superintendent		M.S.I.A., A.R.San.I.
Additional Public Health Inspector	-	P. Darbyshire M.S.I.A.

KNUTSFORD URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

Public Health Department,
Council Offices,
Knutsford.

To the Chairman and Members of the
Knutsford Urban District Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in submitting my Annual Report for the year
1955.

Last year the population reached the 7,000 mark for the first
time and has continued to rise to the figure of 7,200.

The vital statistics, when corrected, compared favourably
with the rest of the country and comments on the particular figures
are made in the appropriate part of the report.

Further progress has been made in slum clearance and it is
interesting to know that the major share of the five year programme
for slum clearance will be completed in the first year.

I should like to take this opportunity of thanking members
of the Health Committee for the interest they have shown in the work
of the Department and to thank Mr. Butler (Chief Public Health
Inspector) and his staff for the work they have done and the help they
have given me at all times.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

DONALD LONGBOTTOM,

Medical Officer of Health.

PART 1.

GENERAL STATISTICS

Area of District	2,485 acres.
Average Height above sea level	210 feet.
Registrar General's mid-year estimate of population	7,200
Number of inhabited houses (end of 1955) per rate book	2,202
Rateable Value	£53,885
Sum represented by a penny rate	£224.

VITAL STATISTICS

	1955	1954
Crude Birth rate per 1,000 population	13.6	14.2
Standardised Birth Rate	14.4	15.0
General Birth Rate (England & Wales)	15.0	15.2
Crude Death Rate per 1,000 population	33.3	32.9
Standardised Death Rate	27.3	27.0
General Death Rate (England & Wales)	11.7	11.3
Number of Women dying in, or in consequence of childbirth	-	-
Deaths of infants under 1 year of age	3	2
Deaths from Cancer	28	27
Deaths from Tuberculosis	4	2
Total Number of deaths from all causes	240	233

The population figures given are for home population and the birth and death rates are based on this figure. The standardised rates are arrived at after allowing for the age and sex distribution of the population, giving a more fair comparison with those of other areas.

The death rate does not give a true picture for Knutsford as the deaths of many non-residents occur in the wards of Cranford Lodge Hospital for old people, and are recorded as occurring in Knutsford. Whilst this situation would not effect the death rate in large cities with their large populations it means that with the small population of 7,200 in Knutsford an additional 162 deaths puts the rate completely out of perspective, giving a rate of 33.3 compared with the real rate of 10.8. It will also be noted that the causes of deaths e.g. cancer and vascular diseases, both of which are usually associated with the older age groups, show a big preponderance. This reflects the deaths of old people in Cranford Lodge Hospital.

The Registrar General has ruled, that since the hospital is considered as mainly for Chronic Sick, deaths occurring there are not transferable to their original County Borough or County District. In the case of infant deaths and maternity cases such deaths would be transferred.

PART II TABLES
INFANT MORTALITY.

TABLE I
LIVE BIRTHS

	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>1954</u>
Males	44	-	44	57
Females	53	1	54	44
	97	1	98	101

TABLE II
STILL BIRTHS

	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>1954</u>
Males	2	-	2	-
Females	2	-	2	-
	4	-	4	-

TABLE III
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR OF AGE

	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>1954</u>
Males	1	-	1	1
Females	2	-	2	1
	3	-	3	2

TABLE IV
DEATHS OF INFANTS UNDER 4 WEEKS OF AGE

	<u>Legitimate</u>	<u>Illegitimate</u>	<u>Totals</u>	<u>1954</u>
Males	1	-	1	-
Females	2	-	2	-
	3	-	3	-

The causes of death of the 3 infants under 1 year of age were:-

- (1) Uraemia
- (2) Atelectasis
- (3) Atelectasis

These deaths were concerned with congenital causes which in the present state of medical knowledge are not preventable.

TABLE V.

<u>Notifiable Disease</u>	<u>Number of Cases Notified 1955</u>
Scarlet Fever	0
Whooping Cough	2
Diphtheria (including Membranous Group)	0
Measles (excluding Rubella)	112
Acute Pneumonia (Primary of Influenzal)	0
Meningococcal Infection	0
Acute Poliomyelitis -	
Paralytic	0
Non-Paralytic	0
Acute Encephalitis -	
Infective	0
Post Infectious	0
Dysentery..	0
Ophthalmis Neonatorum	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	0
Smallpox	0
Paratyphoid Fevers	0
Enteric or Typhoid Fever (Exc. Paratyphoid)	0
Food Poisoning (Exc. dysentery typhoid and paratyphoid Fevers)	0
Tuberculosis -	
Respiratory	0
Other	0
Erysipelas	0
	<hr/>
Total	114
1954 Total	14

The district was remarkably free from infectious disease with the exception of the measles cases. These were associated with the large measles epidemic in surrounding areas.

TABLE VI

Number of new cases of Tuberculosis notified during
the year ended 31st December, 1955.

1

TABLE VII

Deaths from Tuberculosis registered
during the year ended 31st December, 1955.

4

TABLE VIII

DEATHS REGISTERED DURING THE CALENDAR YEAR 1955 AND CAUSES

<u>Causes of Death</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total</u>
All Causes (Certified 240) (Uncertified 0)			
Tuberculosis, respiratory	3	0	3
Tuberculosis, other	1	0	1
Syphilitic Disease	0	0	0
Diphtheria	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	0	0	0
Meningococcal Infections	0	0	0
Acute Poliomyelitis	0	0	0
Measles	0	0	0
Other Infective and parasitic diseases	0	0	0
Malignant neoplasm, stomach	1	1	2
Malignant neoplasm, lungs bronchus	2	2	4
Malignant neoplasm, breast	0	5	5
Malignant neoplasm, uterus	0	1	1
Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	5	11	16
Leukaemia, aleukaemia	-	-	-
Diabetes	1	1	2
Vascular lesions of nervous system	30	38	68
Coronary disease, angina	8	8	16
Hypertension with heart disease	1	-	1
Other heart disease	30	31	61
Other circulatory disease	5	8	13
Influenza	0	2	2
Pneumonia	2	4	6
Bronchitis	5	2	7
Other diseases of respiratory system	1	0	1
Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	2	1	3
Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	0	0	0
Nephritis and nephrosis	0	3	3
Hyper-plasia of prostate	1	0	1
Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	0	0	0
Congenital malformations	1	0	1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	9	8	17
Motor vehicle accidents	1	0	1
All other accidents	2	3	5
Suicide	-	-	-
Homicide and operations of war	0	0	0
Total	111	129	240
1954 Total	114	119	233

TABLE IX

COMPARATIVE FIGURES OF VITAL STATISTICS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Total Population</u>	<u>Total Births</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Total Deaths</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Deaths of Infants under 1 year</u>		
1911	5983	113	22.0	63	12.3	9		
1915	5378	94	19.1	62	12.3	6		
1920	5035	107	21.2	65	12.9	7		
1925	5499	69	12.5	45	8.3	4		
1930	5846	84	14.2	50	8.5	5		
1935	5681	61	10.7	58	10.2	2		
1940	6306	77	12.2	80	12.7	3		
1945	5620	95	16.9	74	13.2	6		
1950	6357	90	14.2	67	10.5	0		
1951	6576	100	15.2	90	13.7	0		
1952	6530	90	13.8	124	19.0	1		
1953	6805	105	15.4	157a	75*	23.1a	11.0*	0
1954	7090	101	15.0	233b	94*	32.9	13.3*	2
1955	7200	98	14.4	240c	78*	33.3	10.8*	3

* These are the figures adjusted for Knutsford Residents only and are actual and not corrected rates.

National Health Act Services and Services
provided by the Cheshire County Council

A. Service provided in accordance with the requirements
of the National Health Service Act, 1946

1. Hospital Services

Controlling Body - Manchester Regional Hospital Board.
Local Hospitals - Administered by North West and Mid-Cheshire
Hospital Management Committee.
Secretary - Mr. M. Owen, Administrative Offices,
Altrincham Maternity Home, Sinderland
Road, Altrincham.

NOTE - The Knutsford Council have no representative serving
on these Bodies at the present time.

2. Hospitals serving this area:

General Acute Cases - Cottage Hospital, Knutsford.
Altrincham General Hospital.
General Chronic Cases - Cranford Lodge, Knutsford.
Maternity Hospitals - Cranford Lodge, Knutsford - 10 beds.
Ear, Nose and Throat - St. Anne's Home, Woodville Road, Altrincham.

A large number of cases from Knutsford are also treated in
Manchester Hospitals and Macclesfield.

3. General Practitioner and General Dental Services

Controlling Body - National Health Service Executive Council
for Cheshire.
Clerk - Mr. F. Hayter, 28, Nicholas Street, Chester.

NOTE - The Knutsford Council have no representative on this Body.

4. Service of Local Health Authority - Cheshire County Council

1. Ambulance Service)	
2. Immunisation and Vaccination)	Altrincham Divisional
3. Care and after care)	Health Committee.
4. Home Help Service)	
5. Maternity and Child Welfare)	
6. Domiciliary Midwifery and)	
and District Nursing)	
7. Dental Service - Expectant)	
and Nursing Mothers and Pre-)	County Council
School Children)	Health Committee.
8. Mental Health Service - Duly)	
Authorised Officer for Mental)	
Health - Mr. Dixon, 18, Stanley)	
Road, Knutsford.)	

The Divisional Health Committee area covers Hale U.D.C., Bowdon U.D.C.,
Altrincham M.B., Knutsford U.D.C. and Bucklow R.D.C. and includes
Members of these Authorities, members of the County Council and
co-opted members.

Divisional Medical Officer and District - Dr. D. Longbottom, Mountlands,
M.O.H. for the above districts The Mount, Altrincham.

B. Other Services by other Committees of Cheshire County Council.

- | | | |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
| 1. Education Committee | - | School Health Services, including School Dental Service. |
| 2. Welfare Committee | - | Old persons care and attention, homeless, handicapped persons, provision for residential accommodation - County Welfare Officer - Mr. Evans, Hough Green, Chester. |
| 3. Children's Committee | - | Provides for the care of deprived children i.e. children not under parental care. |
| Children's Officer for this area | - | Mr. J. Blades, The County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford. |

C. Services available in Knutsford.

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| 1. Maternity and Child Welfare Clinic | - | County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford. Every Wednesday at 2 - 4 p.m. |
| 2. Immunisation and Vaccination | - | Last Thursday in each month at 10.0.a.m. - 11.0.a.m. |
| 3. <u>School Clinic - County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford.</u> | | |
| (a) Minor Ailments Clinic | - | Wednesday mornings - 9 - 12. a.m.
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday--
9 - 10 a.m. as required. |
| (b) Doctors Session | - | 2nd and 4th Wednesday mornings in the month. |
| (c) Dental Clinic | - | Each Tuesday morning and afternoon. |
| (d) Eye Clinic | - | 3rd Thursday afternoon each month, by appointment. |
| 4. Health Visitor | - | Nurse Dawson, County Offices, Bexton Road, Knutsford. |
| 5. District Nurses and Midwives | - | Nurse Cadogan, Mere Heath Lane, Mere.
Nurse Tierney, 1 Westfield Drive, Knutsford. |
| 6. Relief District Nurse & Midwife | - | Nurse Buckley, 7, Ascol Drive, Plumley, Nr. Knutsford. |
| 7. Ambulance Station | - | Town Hall, Altrincham - Altrincham 3256. |

All enquiries in connection with the above services should be made to: Dr. D. Longbottom, Divisional Medical Officer, Mountlands, The Mount, Altrincham. Tel. Altrincham 1733.

Annual Report of the Public Health
Inspector for the Year ending
31st December, 1955.

WATER SUPPLY

The Statutory Undertaking for the supply of water to the Urban District is the Knutsford Light and Water Company who buy water in bulk from Manchester Corporation Waterworks.

I am indebted to the Engineer and Manager of the Manchester Corporation Waterworks Department for the following information:-

"Knutsford is supplied with water from the Thirlmere Aqueduct and samples taken on this supply in the Sale to Altrincham area should be representative, the results being as follows:-

THIRLMERE SUPPLY

January to December, 1955.

TYPICAL CHEMICAL ANALYSES.

Samples taken from house taps.

<u>DATE</u>	<u>Feb. 9</u>	<u>Oct. 12.</u>
Lab. No.	4521	4765
pH value	6.9	7.3
Colour as ppm platinum	10	10
Turbidity ppm silica scale	1.0	1.0
Odour. Cold or hot	nil	nil
Taste. Cold or hot	nil	nil
	<u>parts per million</u>	
Total solids dried at 180 C.	36	38
Free acidity as CO ₂	1	1
Alkalinity as CaCO ₃	16	15
Total hardness as CaCO ₃	18	18
Chlorides as Cl ₂	7	9.5
Nitrates as N ₂	0.51	0.23
Nitrates as N ₂	0.002	0.012
Ammoniacal nit rogen as N ₂	0.01	0.01
Albuminoid nitrogen as N ₂	0.04	0.02
Oxygen absorbed test, 4 hours @ 27	0.64	0.58
Silica as SiO ₂	2	2
Iron as Fe	0.20	0.08
Manganese as Mn	nil	0.01

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Eighty (80) samples were taken on this particular supply with the following results:

Samples free from coliform bacteria	77
Samples with faecal coli present	1
Samples with non-faecal coli present	2
	<u>80</u>

The samples with coli present were as follows:

Date	Coliform bacteria Number per 100 mls of water.			
	Non-		Total	
	Faecal	faecal		
June 8	0	3	3	(1 other sample taken was free)
June 20	1	0	1	(1 other sample taken was free)
Dec. 5	0	1	1	

These coliform bacteria would be derived from 'aftergrowths' in deposits in the mains.

The water has been of excellent chemical and bacteriological quality throughout the year."

Only one complaint was received with regard to the water supply and when a sample was taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory for analysis it was found to be satisfactory.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

As during the previous year a weekly collection of house refuse has been maintained with the full time use of an 11 cu.yd. and the part time use of a 9 cu.yd. S. & D. Freighter. Complaints with regard to this service have been nil.

Tipping continues on the Shaw Heath Tip and during the exceptionally hot summer complaints were received from the residents of Shaw Heath about fly infestation. Whilst it was felt that the tip was not solely to blame the site of tipping operations was removed further from the houses and improved methods of tipping put into operation. At the same time the tipping of offal and other obnoxious matter was banned.

During the year the soiling of the surface of the old tip in Beggarman's Lane was completed and the site handed back to the owner.

SALVAGE

Throughout the year a separate collection of waste paper from trade premises has been made.

With the exception of the months of January and December when the price per ton was £7. 10s. Od. and £8. respectively, the price remained constant at £8.10s. Od. per ton during the year. The following table shows the amount of value of waste paper and scrap metal disposed of during the year, compared with the previous year.

<u>Waste Paper</u>						<u>Scrap Metals</u>					
<u>Weight</u>			<u>Value</u>			<u>Weight</u>			<u>Value</u>		
Tons	Cwt.	Qrs.	£.	s.	d.	Tons	Cwt.	lbs.	£.	s.	d.
1955	36	17	2	302.	12. 8	4	19	38	58.	3. 9.	
1954	27.	19	0	181.	11. 11.			Nil			Nil

PREMISES AND OCCUPATIONS CONTROLLED BY BYE-LAW AND REGULATION

No action was necessary under the above heading during the year under review.

DISINFECTION

Once again the number of cases in which disinfection was considered necessary was small, only four disinfections being carried out during the year, 2 of which involved the destruction of bedding and other articles.

DISINFESTATION

One treatment has been carried out for the eradication of bed-bugs and in this case a proprietary insecticide was used with satisfactory results.

SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

All the sewerage from the Urban District, with the exception of a small area east of King Street, which is pumped through a rising main into the King

SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL (Contd)

Street sewer, is carried by gravitating sewers to the disposal works situated on the Bank of the Birkin Brook on the north east boundary of the town. All samples of effluent taken by the Mersey River Board during the year classed as satisfactory.

The available space for tipping sludge at the works is now exhausted and the tractor loader and trailer is to be purchased for the removal of sludge to the Shawheath tip.

One property which was drained to a septic tank has been connected to the sewer and the septic tank dispensed with and in another case the drainage installation has been reconstructed.

RODENT CONTROL

The Council has one part-time operative for this work who has been trained in the methods recommended by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries. Infestations of domestic premises continue to be treated free of charge and in the case of business premises the cost of treatment is recovered from the persons responsible.

The following table gives details of infestations and treatments carried out during the year:-

	Local Authority	Private	Business and other	Totals of Cols.1.2.3.	Agricult- ural
1. Number of properties in Local Authy's District	8	2360	156	2551	27
2. Properties inspected as a result of:					
(a) Notification	-	34	12	46	1
(b) Survey under the Act	8	62	15	87	2
(c) Otherwise	-	70	34	116	12
3. Properties found to be infested by:					
(a) Rats (Major & minor)	3	36	8	48	1
(b) Mice (Major & minor)	1	12	4	17	-
4. Infested Properties treated by the L.A.	4	48	12	65	1

A 10% test of the sewers was carried out in April when infestation was observed in 6 out of the 35 manholes baited. As in previous years the infestation was confined to the sewers in the old part of the town.

The Council received the 50% grant from the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries for approved expenditure in regard to rodent control.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS

The three slaughterhouses in the town continue to operate in a satisfactory manner. The only complaint received was against the practice of commencing slaughtering early on Sunday morning in one slaughterhouse but the owner's co-operation was obtained and he agreed not to commence before 8.0. a.m.

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS (Contd).

At the beginning of the year confirmation was received of the Council's resolution under Section 4 (2) of the Slaughterhouses Act, 1954.

The following table shows the number of carcasses and offal inspected and condemned:-

	Cattle Excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	417	-	7	1083	489	-
Number inspected	417	-	7	1083	489	-
All diseases except Tuberculosis & Cysticerci Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	2	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	68	-	-	37	15	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	16.3%	-	28.6%	3.5%	3%	-
<u>Tuberculosis only:</u> Whole carcasses condemned	2	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	19	-	-	-	13	-
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	5%	-	-	-	2.7%	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

INSPECTION OF MEAT AND OTHER FOODS (Contd)

The total weight of unfit meat was approximately 2,759 lbs.

In addition, the following foodstuffs were condemned as being unfit for human consumption:-

Shoulder steak	225 lbs.	Rolled Beef	31 lbs.
Leg of Lamb	57 lbs.	Shoulder Pork	10 lbs.
Ox Kidney	4 lbs.	Apples	120 lbs.
Ducks	12 lbs.	Cooked Ham	4 tins.
Corned Beef	3 tins	Ox Tongues	2 tins.
Pork Luncheon Meat	1 tin		

SLAUGHTER OF ANIMALS ACT, 1933-54

During the year eight licences to slaughter, as required under the above Acts, were issued.

MILK SUPPLY

Other than dairies at farms, which are controlled by the Ministry of Agriculture and Fisheries, there are five dairies in the area, all of which obtain their milk already bottled from the larger dairy concerns.

MILK SAMPLING

During the year two samples of milk were taken and submitted to the Public Health Laboratory at Monsall for bacteriological examination and both of these failed to satisfy the Methylene Blue Test. The attention of the Milk Advisory Officer was drawn to this matter and when two further samples were submitted a week later both were classed as satisfactory. The first two samples were taken during the exceptionally hot weather and of sixteen samples submitted on the same day by five other Authorities, only five satisfied the test.

DESIGNATED MILK

Licences were issued during the year for the sale of Designated Milk, as follows:-

<u>Designation</u>	<u>Dealers</u>	<u>Supplementary</u>	<u>Totals</u>
Pasturised	5	1	6
Tuberculin Tested	5	1	6
Sterilised	-	1	1
	10	3	13

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT, 1938 - SAMPLING

The Cheshire County Council are the Authority for the taking of samples of food stuffs under the above Act and I am indebted to Mr. Stacy Hallard, Chief Weights and Measures Inspector to the County Council for the following information:-

"All the samples were submitted to the Public Analyst for analysis and the fact that all were reported to be genuine is a highly satisfactory result.

<u>Samples Taken</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>Number of Non-Standard Samples</u>
Dill Water	1	-
Ice Cream	2	-
Iodine (Tincture of)	1	-
Jam (Bramble seedless)	1	-
Milk (Fresh)	14	-
Raspberry Drops	1	-
Salmon Spread	1	-
	21	

FACTORIES ACT 1937

The following table shows the number of inspections made and action taken during the year:-

	Number on Register	N U M B E R O F		
		Inspections	Written Notices	Occupiers Prosecuted
1. Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	3	2	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	25	34	-	-
3. Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
Totals	28	36	-	-

CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

	Found	Number of cases in which defects were found			Number of cases in which pro- secution was made
		Referred			
		Remedied	To H.M. Inspec- tor	By H.M. Inspec- tor	
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	1	1	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	1	1	-	-	-

OUTWORKERS

One resident of Knutsford undertaking homework has been notified during the year and none of the firms in the District have workers who undertake homework.

SMOKE ABATEMENT

The remaining factory chimney in the district which caused offence was dealt with during the year. The means of firing the furnace were changed from coal to oil and no further smoke emission has occurred.

HOUSING

SLUM CLEARANCE PROPOSALS

The following are the details of the proposals submitted to the Ministry of Housing and Local Government in accordance with Section (1) of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.

Total number of permanent dwellings in the Local Authority's area 2,287

PART 1. THE TOTAL PROBLEM

- (i) Estimated number of houses unfit for human habitation within the meaning of Section 9 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, and suitable for action under section 11 or section 25 of the Housing Act, 1936 90
- (ii) Period in years which the Council think necessary for securing the demolition of all the Houses in (i) 5

PART 2. ORDERS ALREADY MADE ETC.

- (iii) Number of houses in (i) in clearance areas and already covered by operative clearance or compulsory purchase orders or owned by the Local Authority Nil.
- (iv) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders have been submitted to the Minister but have not yet become operative Nil.

PART 3. ACTION IN THE FIRST FIVE YEARS

- (v) Number of houses which are already in clearance areas and for which clearance or compulsory purchase orders are to be made or which are to be purchased by agreement within the five years Nil.
- (vi) Number of houses which are to be included in clearance areas still to be declared and which within the five years will be owned by the local authority or will have been included in a clearance order or a compulsory purchase order submitted to the Minister Nil.
- (vii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv), (v) and (vi) to be patched (if necessary) and retained within the five years under section 2 of the Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954, for temporary accommodation Nil.
- (viii) Number of houses under (iii), (iv) and (v) and (vi) to be demolished in the five years Nil.
- (ix) Number of houses (including those already comprised in operative demolition orders) to be demolished in the five years as a result of action under section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 90

A further thirteen houses which were considered to be incapable of being made fit at reasonable expense have been represented to the Council under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936 and in all cases undertakings not to relet upon the expiration of the present tenancies were obtained.

Of the 90 Houses included in the five year plan, it is hoped that 60 of these could be demolished in 1956. In the first year of the programme is a large number of houses which are already empty and awaiting demolition. During the routine inspection of the district housing defects were found

which resulted in the service of eleven informal notices and one statutory notice. In all cases the necessary work was carried out and the notices complied with.

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

During the year under review six improvement grants and one conversion grant were made, the total amount involved being £1,125.

CERTIFICATE OF DISREPAIR

Once again a number of enquiries were received in connection with Certificates of Disrepair, but no formal application had been received up to the end of the year.

NEW HOUSES

The total number of new houses completed during the year was 72 as compared with 86 for the previous year. Of these 58 were for private occupation and 14 were Council houses, these being the first 14 to be completed of the 110 under construction on the Shawheath Farm Estate.

